



M E D I A R E L E A S E
STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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GUIDED CANOE FLOAT SCHEDULED ON THE DUCK STATE SCENIC RIVER
FREE VAN TRANSPORTATION AVAILABLE FOR FIRST 10 RESERVATIONS

Nashville, Tenn. - The Department of Environment and Conservation's Division of Natural Areas will host a guided canoe float on the Duck River, a state scenic river, on Saturday, Aug. 30. Participants should meet in the Target parking lot at Old Hickory Boulevard and I-65 in Brentwood at 9:00 a.m. Free van transportation to the put-in is available for the first 10 reservations.

The canoe float will begin at Leftwich Bridge and run to the take-out at Howard Bridge. This section of river has a gentle current and no rapids. It will take approximately four hours to float and is an excellent opportunity for beginners to canoe. Participants are encouraged to bring a lunch, water and a change of clothes.

Reservations are required for the Duck River Canoe Float and may be made by calling Stewardship Ecologist Forrest Evans at 615-532-0431 or emailing forrest.evans@state.tn.us.

Participants are welcome to bring their own canoes or kayaks, but will then have to provide their own transportation. Canoes may also be rented for a special trip discount of \$12.50 per person or \$25 per canoe through a local rental company.

A 13 mile section of the Duck River is a State Scenic River, and runs through the Duck River Complex State Natural Area. The Duck River Complex is a 2,135-acre natural area complex in Maury County that consists of six natural areas within the 12,800-acre Yanahli Wildlife Management Area, which is managed by the Tennessee Wildlife Resource Agency. The Duck River is noted for rich faunal diversity, particularly the several federal endangered mussel species that occur there.

Tennessee has 79 designated State Natural Areas throughout the state covering approximately 110,000 acres of ecologically significant lands and 13 state scenic rivers covering 390 river miles. More information about Tennessee's natural areas program, including a complete list of all natural areas and scheduled field trips, can be found at www.tn.gov/enviroment/na/.

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